



Scoil Phádraig Naofa

Dear Parents,

I would like to take the opportunity to wish you all a lovely summer. It has been an incredibly busy and enjoyable school year and all the boys and girls of Scoil Phádraig Naofa deserve a well-earned holiday.

We all wish our Rang a Sé pupils a fond farewell and continued success as they move on to new and exciting adventures in secondary school. We would also like to remember any families leaving us here in SPN for the final time. We thank you all for your support over many years.

The school would like to extend our warmest regards and continued future success to the other children and families who are also leaving us. We hope your time in SPN will be remembered fondly.

I encourage you all to enjoy this newsletter and thank everyone for making the many special school moments contained within, possible over the past school year.

I would like to sincerely acknowledge all members of staff, whose professionalism and dedication are a source of great pride for Scoil Phádraig Naofa. Thanks to our vibrant and caring staff who, along with superb support from both our Board of Management and Parents' Association, ensure best outcomes for our pupils on a daily basis as we navigate the school year.

All the boys and girls of Scoil Phádraig Naofa have been wonderful this year. I wish them all a happy, healthy and fun-filled summer.

Be safe and take care.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

Edward McCarthy

Príomhoide

Dates to remember:

Summer Holidays at 12 Noon on June 25th

School reopens at 8:30am on August 28th



New Junior Infants

Our new school term opened with the visit of our in-coming Junior Infants, at the end of April. These boys and girls were a little nervous on the day but they quickly settled when they met some new friends and some of the SPN teachers. They had an opportunity to play with the toys, sing songs and to have a little chat some of their new Junior Infant friends. We enjoyed meeting with the future SPN pupils, and look forward to seeing them at the end of August. Have a lovely summer!



First Holy Communion 2025

It was on a beautiful sunny morning in May that our Second-Class pupils received the Sacrament of the Eucharist. The mass was celebrated by the Rev. Pat O'Mahony. The children recited their prayers and sang beautifully in the church. Following the mass at St. Patricks Church, our celebrations continued back at SPN with a lovely sense of community as parents and grandparents joined the children. We would like to extend our thanks to all the First-Class parents and Parents Association who organised and served tea/ coffee accompanied by scrumptious treats on the day.





Building work begins

The beginning of the month of May was incredibly busy as it heralded the start of the school building work. The builders continue to make great progress and we are all excited to see the new classrooms. A sincere thank you to all the parents/guardians, children and staff who are working together to ensure that the drop off/collection and parking at school is going as smoothly as possible.



The Student Council – Exposé

The Scoil Phádraig Naofa Student Council has gone from strength to strength this year as we extended the council to pupils in second class. Children in Second and Third Class were invited to meet with senior members of staff where they had an opportunity to make a presentation which highlighted their skills and vision for the Student Council. The pupils outlined later how they “practised really hard to get my speech ready”, and “I wrote my script three times to be sure I liked it”. There was great excitement when the names of the new student council members were revealed, where one child stated that “I was just myself, I got in for being me”. Another commented on how their parents were “really proud” of their achievement.



Our Scoil Phádraig Naofa Student Council represent the wider student body in our school. They gather together to decide upon a focus for fund raising and ask their peers for input with regard to games, equipment for yard etc. The children hold their meetings with the support of two senior members of staff, who promote and encourage the development of leadership, planning and leadership skills. The children take turns taking/reading the minutes of the meeting and relay the decisions reached among the council to the whole school community. Well done to all the SPN Student Council.



Cork City Sports 2025

As we approached the last days of May, the SPN Cork City Sports Athletes journeyed to MTU for the Cork City Sport 2025. Our races began in early morning and finally drew to a close in the late afternoon. We are so proud of all our participants who demonstrated their great enthusiasm, determination, skill and pride on the day. A huge thank you to all those involved on the day, coaches, children and parents.





Paddington Bear Production

Pupils in Room 13 had an opportunity to bring one of our beloved characters to life, Paddington Bear, with their recent production. They gathered a range of props, costumes and music to enhance the story. The actors spent time learning their lines, and although there was much to learn, they had them ‘word perfect’ on the day.



The children were very enthusiastic about all aspects of the production, they designed and delivered invitations around the school, and the live music added an extra level of professionalism to their play. Although there were a few nerves before the ‘Opening’ show, one cast member mentioned “I was nervous towards the start but after the second show I realised there was nothing to be afraid of”.



Their director Bean Uí Connaill, was so proud of all of her students, she noted that they were all really excited, and the children worked really hard. A special thanks to all the parents for their support behind the scenes.





Amber Flag Committee

Our Amber Flag Committee has grown in both numbers and strength this year. We are very fortunate to have representatives from pupils in Second to Sixth class. The children and teachers meet to discuss how we can promote the Amber Flag and to create a positive approach/ attitude towards our mental health. The committee will continue to develop the Amber Flag during the next academic year.



Our new committee worked collectively with school staff to write our SPN pupil friendly 'Bí Cineálta' policy. They shared their thoughts and ideas so that the policy reflects the thoughts of our school and pupils. This new anti-bullying policy will come into effect in the new school year.



Tennis

Our SPN tennis players journeyed to Blackrock Tennis Club where they met St. Michaels's National School in a 'Friendly' tournament. The children played a number of matches, boys/girls doubles and mixed doubles. Due to their skill and determination the team enjoyed winning success in all of their matches. Many thanks to the parents and coaching team for your continued support.



Third Class – Cinderella

The production of Cinderella as performed by pupils in Room 16, was inspired by our upcoming musical, 'It's a Hard Knock Life' and the recent performance of 'Paddington'. Initially only a yard time activity the production idea quickly grew. The children thought that a "Panto style show, would be so fun", where they could "put on silly accents and scenes".



They children sourced their own costumes and props and the smooth production was supported by their amazing back stage crew. All the pupils enjoyed their performances with one child stating that they "loved it, it was so fun, it was the best thing I did in Third Class". The entire cast engaged with the audience and "tried to make it as lively as we could". A huge Congratulations to the script writers, actors and back stage crew.



First Class

The positive impact from the Musical, Paddington, and Cinderella continues to ripple throughout the school. Following their attendance at Cinderella, pupils in First Class enjoyed choregraphing a series of dance steps during their yard time. They enjoyed performing their dance to their peers and teachers.



Summer has Arrived - Art creations



Art in all its creative processes ensures that our classrooms and hallways reflect the changing seasons. Despite a grey, overcast day, Summer Time is alive and well in SPN, thanks to the wonderful Art work created by our pupils and their teachers.





Amber Flag Collection

The Amber Flag Committee organised a non-uniform day to highlight the importance of the Amber Flag. This is a very important initiative, which promotes and supports positive mental health and its importance in our daily lives. The children were encouraged to 'get creative' with their outfits – 'creative crazy hair', 'crazy outfits' and opportunities to 'dress up as your hero'. The collection raised a total of €904, which will be donated to Pieta House and will fund some of the Amber Committee initiatives within the school. Thank you for all your support and creativity.



Hands on Learning in Junior Infants

The life of a Junior Infant pupil at SPN is filled with a variety of learning opportunities. They create amazing patterns on threading boards, create colourful patterns using beads and play Bingo to reinforce their phonics.



SPN Camogie By Victoria Sanjoe

We started the day off with a fun bus ride to Douglas GAA. We played our first and second match and we won. We played our third match and we lost but it was a very good game. At the end all of the schools gathered around and we all got medals and food. Overall it was a very fun day for everyone.



Rock 'n rolls in Junior Infants

The children in Junior Infants always look forward to PE time. This term they studied the gymnastics module of the PE curriculum. They all enjoyed practising their rock 'n' rolls in the halla.





First Class Library visit

Our pupils in First Class were treated to sample all the mystery and fun of reading when they visited Passage Library. Whilst they were there they met and chatted with Paula the Librarian. They enjoyed opportunities to browse along the bookshelves and select a range of books to read at home and school. Everyone really enjoyed these visits and look forward to continuing their library visits during the summer and beyond.



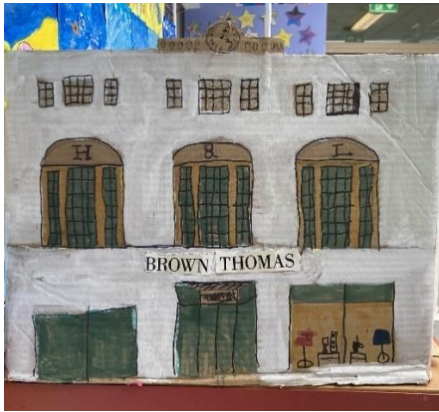
Summer Stars Reading at the Library 2025

The national summer reading programme for children, Summer Stars, which is organised by the public library, begins in mid-June and lasts until the end of August. All children are invited to join this reading adventure over the summer, where there is a strong emphasis on reading for enjoyment. Once children have registered (free) at their local library they receive an activity book and seeded bookmarks. As supplies are limited, don't delay!



Number Stories

What a difference a year makes! In Junior Infants our pupils were busy writing number stories e.g. 2 and 1 makes 3. They enjoyed using concrete material to aid their learning and they had fun working with their friend.



Fourth Class Construction Projects

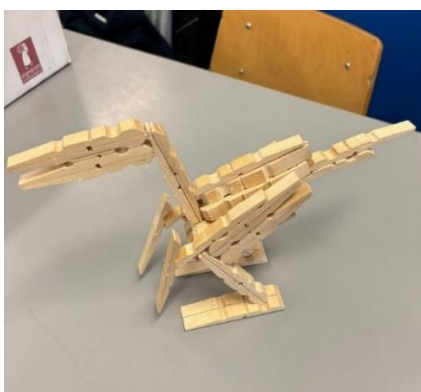
One of the beloved Fourth Class **projects** would be their construction project, here the children display their creative and engineering abilities in their construction project. This year the children created a wide range of familiar buildings e.g. Brown Thomas, Taj Mahal.



They used a variety of material e.g. lollipop sticks, cardboard, wooden pegs and Lego to build their creations.



This year the projects provided a walk through history with a 'dinosaur', 'Colosseum', 'Mona Lisa', 'a castle', 'a lantern' and finally 'Spar.'





Well done to all our amazing and creative designers and to your 'support team' at home.



Lego Club

Both the senior and junior members of the SPN Lego Club enjoyed working together this term to plan and create a variety of Lego models. In the relaxed but busy atmosphere, the children chatted as they worked to perfect their 'creations'. Well done to all and 'keep creating' 😊



Rising Sun Karate

The pupils of SPN from Junior Infants to Sixth class continued their skills development under the guidance of Sensei Barry. Recently Seth O Callaghan,(6th Class) attended a seminar in Cork where he was tested for and awarded his JKA Black Belt. He has trained with Sensei Barry since Senior Infants. Congratulations Seth – what an achievement! We look forward to celebrating the success of our other SPN students in the years ahead.



Exploring with our 'Buddies'

Our intrepid explorers in Senior Infants along with their Sixth Class Buddies, went exploring in Mount Oval. Armed with hand held magnifiers, they searched for mini beasts and 'creatures' in their habitat. It demonstrates how fortunate we are to be surrounded by nature and opportunities to explore the world around us.



The children loved spending time chatting and having fun with their buddy. It certainly was a sun filled day where memories were made.



‘Keeping an eye on my big brother’



Teddy Bear Picnic

It was a gloriously sunny morning when the, Junior Infants along with their V.I.T. (Very Important Teddies), enjoyed a lovely picnic together. The children and their teddies had great fun as they played games, swopped stories and munched on their picnic lunch.



Morning Crew Creations

Our pupils who attend Morning Crew, children from Third to Sixth Class, work together to develop a wide range of skills, fine and gross motor skills and planning and organisation, to name but a few invaluable skills. Recently, the children worked together to create pizza with a range of toppings in the staffroom. The YUMMY aroma wafted down the corridors which created resulted in many ‘rumbling tummies’ in the Infant classes.



Procedural Writing in Second Class

Second Class enjoyed working on their procedural writing this term. They discussed and then planned the sequential steps in various book activities. Their knowledge took on a more practical approach when they followed their recipe for Chocolate Rice Crispy cakes and enjoyed munching on their delicious treats.



After School Activities

Once again this term the children of SPN had a broad selection of after school activities available to them. Whether they explored their creative talents in Crafty Kids or with the Cork School of Music, or exploring Gaeilge and its culture attending Irish Dancing with Miah or Rang Gaeilge. There was ‘something’ available for all interests. Thank you to all those who supported the children in their after school pursuits.



Ice cream Van treats

The Parents Association along with the Student Council arranged for a special treat for all at SPN at the beginning of June. Despite some rain showers, all the children and staff received a treat – an Ice Cream or Popcorn. We all enjoyed the scrumptious treat and this was reflected in the beaming smiles and excited voices which could be heard throughout the school. Thank you to our SPN Parents Association and Student Council.



Hockey Blitz

In early June SPN Fifth and Sixth class pupils participated in an Inter Schools Hockey Blitz. The SPN team displayed great skill and prowess on the field where they won all six of their hockey matches. Well done



ladies! Thank you to all those involved with such a fun day.



Chess Club Tournament

The members of SPN Chess Club took part in a team tournament over two Monday sessions. The children had an opportunity to use the skills which they have practised and developed during their time at the after school Chess Club. It was a very close competition with the top team only winning by 1 point. Congratulations to all the participators and to all the winners!!



School Tours 2025

Our exclusive School Tour Supplement will be issued on Tuesday June 24th



SPN Annual Sports Awards 2025

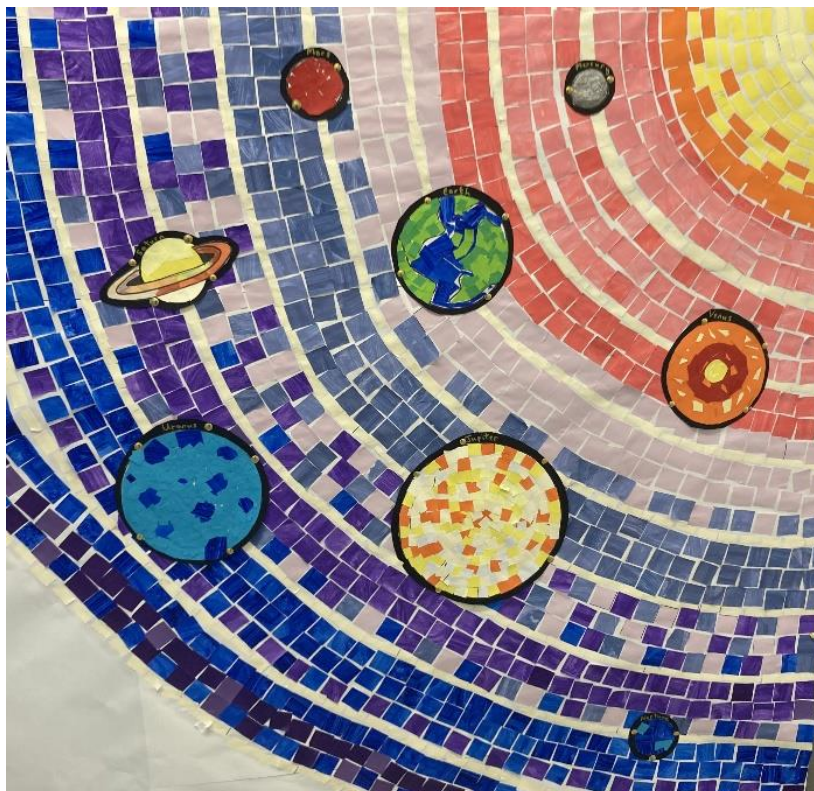
As our school year approached its final days, we held our Annual Sports Awards. This provides the coaching staff of SPN to recognise the development of key skills, and the ability to work as part of a team, to name but a few.

This year we were joined by Amy O'Connor, six time All Ireland Camogie winner. Amy offered our students a few words of wisdom and inspiration before awarding the SPN trophies and prizes.

A huge Congratulations to all our Sports Winners, to all our participants, their parents and to all the coaches



and trainers this year.



Team Work to create Art

We enjoy identifying occasions for pupils to engage, work and create Art together as a team.



Summer Quiz 2025

In the final full week of school, children in Fourth to Sixth classes came together to participate in our annual Summer Quiz. The teams comprised of children from each year group ensuring a good mix of knowledge and skill. The ten rounds included General Knowledge, Know Your School, Music and Sport. Our winning teams were presented with trophies and prizes after a fun filled morning. A huge Thank You to all the organisers for devising the questions etc.



Sports For All Day

Our senior pupils, Second -Sixth Class walked to Douglas Hall for their Sports For All Day events, whilst the pupils from Junior Infants to First Class remained at SPN. Our sixth class pupils provided great assistance to the teachers with organising and running the various activities. The annual SPN Sports Fun Day encourages all children to participate in all activities and to have fun with their peers and teachers.





A sincere **Thank You** to all who organised and made this event such a success.



The Musical

Well, once again 'Opening Night' of the SPN musical, "It's a Hard Knock Life", is almost upon us. The final rehearsals and adjustments have been made and there is a frisson of electric excitement in the air. The student body from Fifth and Sixth class have worked in tandem with staff for the last number of months as they have learned their 'lines, lyrics and choreography' for stage movements and dances. Meanwhile the Back Stage Crew and Set Design teams have worked relentlessly to ensure that everything is ready for the 'big night'.

Best Wishes to all the cast and crew, the staff, parents and director. ❤️



On this occasion each year one always reflects on how quickly times passes. As our final week of the school year drew to a close we gathered together with our sixth class pupils, their parents and teachers along with TJ Coakley to celebrate our Graduating class of 2025. The ceremony was led by TJ Coakley with further contributions made by pupils and staff. It was a lovely inclusive ceremony which we all enjoyed. To our sixth class pupils,



and remember to be kind, be happy and be safe.



... from all at SPN